

REMARKS

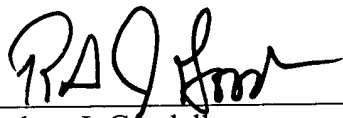
The status of the claims is as follows: claims 1-24 were patented in U.S. Patent No. 6,469,307 ("the '307 patent"), and claims 5, 10, 15 and 20 have been amended; and new claims 25-27 have been added by way of this amendment to further define the invention. Thus, claims 1-27 are presently pending. Basis for new claims 25-27 may be found throughout the specification of the '307 patent and the figures therein. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced by the amendments. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application in view of the above amendments and remarks. Applicants look forward to a favorable Office Action on the merits.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: October 21, 2003

By: 
Robert J. Goodell
Registration No. 41,040

Customer No. 009629
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Tel: 202-739-3000; Fax: 202-739-3001